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MOUTH OF THE RIVER

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GULF CRISIS CONCERNS 18 YEAR OLDS

by Christopher B. Taube

Now that the January 15th deadline has passed we must wonder what will happen next in the Persian Gulf. This issue hits home for many students at Oyster River, because on Tuesday of last week a 1982 Oyster River graduate was killed in a plane crash.

Captain Michael L. Chinburg, 26 of Durham, was piloting a training mission when he went down and crashed. The officials still do not know of the reason for the crash.

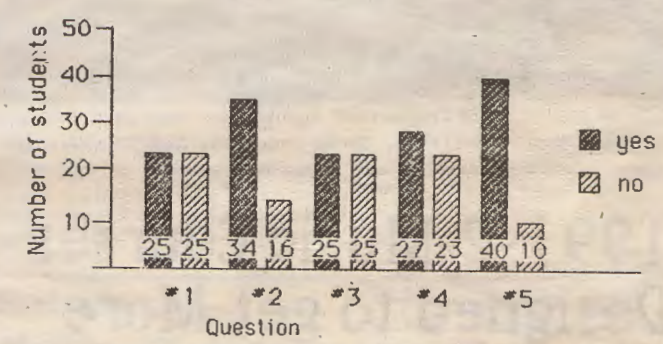
There is mixed emotion among the students here at Oyster River about our presence in the Gulf. Senior Mike Moriarty said, of President Bush's policy that, "I think we are taking too long. We should have gone in a long time ago." Toby Mautz, another senior who is eligible for the draft, said," He (President Bush) is trying to use his might. He's trying to flex instead of trying to negotiate."

When asked if students would go to war if drafted as opposed to running to another country there was once again mixed emotions. Senior Chris Loughlin said," I would go, but only so that I would not have to go to jail." Senior Gillian Nye said," I would go to jail if I had to, because I do not believe in war. We should allow the sanctions to sink in and give them time to work."

From a survey done of fifty students 25 out of the 50 students felt that the sanctions should be allowed to work. When the students were asked about President Bush's prerogative to be in the gulf 39 of the students felt it was to give Kuwait back to its people. The class was split on the question, "Would you go to war if drafted?" There was, however, a general conscensus that we had the legal right to have the troops in the Gulf, but not necessarily the moral right Forty of the students also felt strongly that President Bush should have to have the consent of Congress to go to war.

On this issue of President Bush asking Congress, Graham Duncan, a junior, commented that," It seems to me that these days no one person should be in the position to send thousands of 18 year-olds to death. The Constitution says that Congress has the power to declare war; if President Bush has to use the U.N. (United Nations) in order not to get Congress involved, something's wrong."

In the next few weeks the crisis in the Gulf could unfold and at this point there is no way of knowing wether or not there will be a peaceful resolution. Even the experts do not know what the outcome will be, but at the talks between Secretary of State James Baker and Tariq Aziz of Iraq, Baker said that, "Iraq must now understand that the ball is in their court. They must be out of Kuwait by the January 15 deadline or they will be expelled by force." Gillian Nye feels that there, "will not be a peaceful resolution, because nobody can face nonviolence as an alternative."



1. Should the U.S. seek a peaceful solution through sanctions?
2. Is Bush's main objective to return Kuwait to the Kuwaitis?
3. Would you go to war if the draft was reinstated?
4. Does the U.S. have the right to have troops in Saudi Arabia?
5. Should Congress have given Bush the power to invade Kuwait?

Members of the class of 1990: As June 1991 approaches, few seniors opt for early decision.

Seniors Weigh Benefits of Early College Admission

by Chrissy Jackson

Seniors, "If you have not gotten started [on college applications] yet, you're in trouble. Just get started." This is advice from Amy Troxell, a senior, accepted early decision to Lehigh University in Pennslyvania. "Juniors, make trips this summer, interviews...you have to start growing up." College will be here sooner than you think. Troxell added.

There are advantages and disadvantages to early decision, said the seniors who were accepted early to college. Noah Learner, accepted to Colby College, said "There's no pressure, while everyone else is squirming. I decided what I wanted, and got in."

"I wasn't sure if I should've waited until regular acceptance, just in case I found a different [college]," said Troxell. "Then again, they. (the college) don't see your first term senior year grades."

Senior Jen Thompson was accepted at the College of William and Mary in Virginia. She agreed that there is no hassle the rest of the year, especially doing applications on top of normal homework. She suggested that "students be totally sure, not just apply [early] just to apply."

Something all students should consider, according to Thompson, is that you should only apply to one school early decision. "If you

Seniors cont. pg 11

New Drug and Alcohol Policy Uses Counseling As First Measure for Student Athletes

by Angela Twombly

The Oyster River High School administration has now implemented the new drug and alcohol policy for athletes participating in winter sports.

The plan is based in part on the Maine Alcohol and Drug Intervention Program developed by Thomas Farrell. Problems of drug or alcohol abuse will be considered medical, legal, and preventable in nature. Athletes are not allowed to be in Possession or transmitting alcohol or illegal drugs AT ANY TIME while a member of any athletic team.

This new plan does more than just punish the player. If a player has a problem and seeks help, the administration then helps the player become involved with an alcohol or drug awareness or education program and/ or meet with the student assistance counselor.

Before the new plan was established, if any athlete was caught drinking alcohol or using drugs, he/she would be suspended for the whole season. Mr. Nichols commented, "I was very upset with the previous policy. I do not think suspending the athlete from athletics for the remainder of the season helps their problem any."

Since the new plan, if an athlete turns him-self/herself in or gets turned in by a friend, the athlete is required to attend a program to help his/her problem. No suspension will be enforced.

If the coach discovers the athlete's use of alcohol/drugs, the result is a two week suspension and the athlete is required to attend an alcohol or drug awareness or education program.

Janice Philbrook, one of the students on the athletic council, commented by saying, "I feel life is full of mistakes and you learn from them, and by getting a second chance, you will learn from

gard to this "anytime" regulation will depend on the type of referral. If reported by a school officials, or a law enforcement personnel, the referral is termed disciplinary. When a concerned peer, parent, or teacher approaches the coach or athletic director or an athlete asks for help for his/her drug or alcohol problem, the referral is considered voluntary.

John Hill another student on the athletic council commented, "I don't think an athlete should have to go to an AA meeting or other programs on their first offense. On the other hand, Mr. Maynard states, "I think it is a good plan, with many

positive aspects."

At this time the plan has not been enforced.

Members of the band Undeserved Spankings, from left to right are Mike "Mongo" Moriarty, Chris Anderson, and Glen Watt. Absent Lance Waterfield and Kevin Hahn.

1991-2 Music Courses Designed to get More O.R. Students Involved

by Kristi Morong

A number of different music classes will be offered next year, according to music teacher Dana Twiss. He feels that the number of students enrolled in the classes will be higher as well.

There are several in-school music classes to sign up for next year, including band, jazzband, orchestra, chamber singers, chorus, and comprehensive musicianship (music theory).

"Last year I wasn't here to encourage people to sign up for courses ahead of time," said Mr. Twiss on why enrollment in some of the music classes was lower than he had expected. In addition to the students already in the high school, Twiss expects many eighth-graders to sign up for band, which he believes could be comprised of almost 50 students.

Mr. Twiss says one reason such a limited amount of people sign up for music courses is because they feel they can't fit it into their schedules.

"It's hard, because a lot of times people have to take more than the required amount of courses in each subject to get into college. Those courses often take the place of any music classes that they would like to participate in," said Twiss.

Mr. Twiss would like to get a rather large band together, but he knows that when there basically isn't one now, it's hard for people to know what to expect and difficult for them to decide if they would like to be a part of it.

"People need to start signing up for band," says Mr. Twiss. "People have to take risks. It's a gamble to invest your time in something you're not sure about, but if people just give it a try, I know they'll enjoy it."

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"Groove Child" Takes Second Place In First Night Battle of the Bands

by Tim Myers

On December 31 two O.R.H.S. bands participated in Portsmouth's First Night's Battle of the Bands. "Groove Child" took second winning $75 in gift certificates and "Undeserved Spankings" took fourth with no prize faced off against "Blind Justice" who took first winning $500 in recordings studio time, "Krazi Aces"who took fifth with no prize and "Modern Relics" who took third with $25 in gift certificates.

Groove Child members are: Jeff Bibbo-vocals, Bryan Killough-guitar, Andy Lanoie-percussion, and James Spires-Bass Guitar. Undeserved Spankings members are: Chris Andersen percussion, Kevin Hahn-Bass guitar, Mike Moriarty-Vocals, Lance Waterfield-Vocals, and Glenn Watt-guitar.

The bands were judged in a number of categories including performance, audience participation and a demo tape sent in to the administrators of the event.

Undeserved Spankings started the event with a hard-crunching mixture of thrash metal and hard core which provoked a small but loyal group of fans to slamdance through portions of the songs. Modern Relics came next, an acoustic duo playing a more subdued line-up taking from such artists as Bad Company and Bob Dylan. Groove Child was third with a mixture of funk and fusion, but like the other two bands received little response from a dead crowd. Krazi Aces played glam metal, performing such music novelties as Poison and Dangerous Toys. Blind Justice, another glam metal band finished off the evening winning points for loyal fan participation.

Many people were disappointed with the outcome of the event. Said Glenn Watt of Undeserved Spankings, "I felt there was litle originality coming out of the bands. Undeserved Spankings and Groove Child were the only really original bands there." How did Glenn feel about his competitors? "I don't like losing to Glam Boys."

Kevin Hahn of Undeserved Spankings said of the judging, "I felt the battle of the Bands was directed more towards a group's image than their talent. But it was still fun. My band played well."

Added Groove Child bass player Jim Spires in a sarcastic tone, "Gee, I wish I could play three note Poison bass lines and role around on stage."

Said Bryan Killough, guitarist for Groove Child, "Although the crowd seemed to like Blind Justice, the Portsmouth band had a hometown advantage."

Next Year? Both bands have expressed interest in returning to First Night for another bone breaking experience.

Community Service Plans Drive For Local Charity this Spring

by Jessica Thibault

The latest activity in the Community Service Program is plans for a fund raiser to be held sometime this spring. The proceeds will go to a local charity.

The Community Service Program was initiated by members of OREW and the student council two years ago. It was designed to get students involved with the people around them. The four branches this year are the Big Buddy Program, the Dover Soup Kitchen, visits to the Dover Health Care Center and Peer Tutoring.

The program has been active for three years, and is coordinated by Ms. Denise Williams, a resource room teacher.

Ms. Williams was in charge of the Peer Tutoring Program at Portsmouth High School, but this is the first time she has ever been in charge of such a broad program.

According to Ms. Williams, students may sign up at any time, but the majority of students usually sign up at the beginning of new semesters.

Students who signed up for the Big Buddy program were paired with someone from the elementary school. It is then up to them to set up times once or twice a week to meet and help them with homework, play games, or take them to the playground.

Every other Monday, students visit the elderly at Dover Health Care. The group is usually composed of 5-8 students. Dean Kennedy commented that, "It's neat working with the older people because they share their life experiences with you."

Peer Tutoring was designed to offer help to students who need tutoring and to give experience to those who are helping, according to Kristi Morong. Students who wish to tutor fill out forms, listing their strong points. Those who need help fill out the same form, listing the areas they need help in and Ms. Williams uses these to match people with someone who can help them. Williams and tutors are hoping that eventually they will get some credit for tutoring.

Morong said, "It [Peer Tutoring] is going well. There are some obstacles to get over, but it wouldn't be as rewarding if it wasn't a challenge."

The program has been quite successful, but more tutors are needed. Ms. Williams said, "Coordinating the Community Service Program

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High school restructuring study still inconclusive

by Jennifer Thompson

The Faculty Advisory Committee is looking at Oyster River's educational philosophy, and questioning how well the objective of individualized education is being achieved. In the late 1990s when the school size nearly doubles, the faculty is wondering "how we can maintain individualized instruction or the feeling of a small school," according to English teacher Kay Whitten. In order to analyze the system and find alternative methods a survey of the faculty was made.

This survey did not draw any sound conclusions due to varying opinions. "In any topic there were certain aspects that some people felt went well, and others thought needed improvement," according to committee chairperson, math teacher Darien Lauten. Another survey was recently handed out at the January ninth faculty meeting, according to Lauten. The format of the new survey was to take the philosophies and objectives and to rate them on a scale of one to five.

In addition, several teachers made a trip recently to the Thayer School to observe the progressive education system in place there, to "see what of that (system) would be useful at Oyster River," Lauten said. The Thayer School's objectives, as outlined in their Advisory Handbook, were to provide "a system through which the individual student's academic and social needs are addressed.

Lauten quoted a study that concluded that students are not prepared to enter the workforce after leaving school, which results in U.S. production falling behind. According to Lauten, this is a reason that many business leaders are also looking for alternate ways of education, and that it is not a problem unique to Oyster River, but rather a nation-wide dilemma.

A study was done at Brown University which resulted in the formation of "The Coalition of Essential Schools." This group listed five "imperatives" in its prospectus, including "to give room to teachers and students to work

and learn in their own, appropriate ways; to focus the the students' work on the use of their minds; and to keep the structure simple and flexible."

Lauten said that Oyster River will not join the group of schools, but rather will form a program designed to fit the needs of the Oyster River community. Lauten added that "every town is unique," and concluded that any program implemented would have to be designed with this particular school in mind.

According to Foster's Daily Democrat, (January second, 1991) Noble High School, in Berwick Maine has divided the freshman class into three teams which study English, math, science, social studies, and "freshman skills" (including health and keyboarding) together with a team of teachers. This program would provide for tracking for math classes, but the rest of the work would be geared towards the group. However, there would still be time and encouragement for students to do honors work. Another objective of this program is to mainstream special students. The Oyster River High School library has a "Professional Library, which includes information about schools such as these.

However, according to Whitten, "In view of the recent staff cuts, the whole curriculum restructuring program is up in the air." One of the main needs for programs such as ones in the Coalition to work, according to the Coalition prospectus is a student to teacher ratio of no more than one to eighty.

Pajama Day tradition continues with most seniors in the spirit

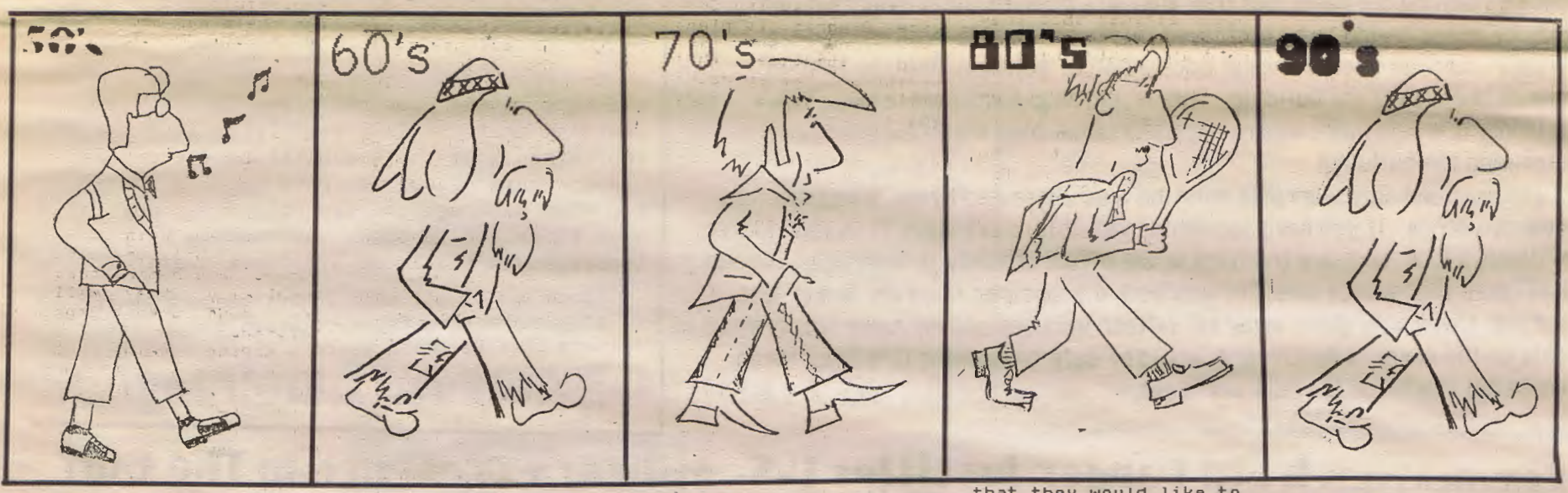
by Jessica Thibault

Oyster River High's seniors displayed their class spirit as they walked the halls in their pajamas on Friday, December 21st. Clutching teddy bears and sporting pigtails, our oldest students were transformed into 5 and 6 year olds.

For over a decade, it has been an Oyster River tradition to hold a pajama day for our seniors the last day before Christmas vacation.

At lunch time the seniors gathered on the stage to serenade their fellow students with Christmas carols.

John Foss commented that "It was a good way for seniors to show their class spirit. Everyone looked kind of odd being in school with their jammies on...but it's our last year, so what the he--! It was lots of fun!" Heather Armitage said, "Being my first year here, I thought it was original to have a day where you could just come in pajamas, -Our caroling sounded awesome." Rosemary Boone said "I liked singing the Christmas carols. I got to see the whole senior class together. It was fun!"



U.S. Military Presence Justified in Gulf.

by Andrea Collins

At the School Board meeting on January 10, 1991, Superintendent of Schools, John Powers, proposed that 5.1 teaching positions be cut from the high school before the 1991-1992 school year begins. This would result in raising the student-teacher ratios, on the average, from 16:1 to 23:1. Sarah Whitten, student representative to the school board, states, "There is no way that these cuts can go through without the quality of education being affected."

Although almost every department would experience cuts, the largest ones would fall upon what is referred to as, the "core subjects"; English, math, science, and social studies. The English department would lose 1.4 personnel, the math department, 1, the science department, 1, and the social studies department, .4. Principal Ann Draper Brown, stated that "The school will hurt, if the teachers are cut." But she later added that she felt it was a "resonable response" to the taxpayers' complaints.

This "Reduction in Force" as it is referred to in the teachers' contract, will be implemented in a variety of ways. The sequence is supposed to fall like this: attrition (those leaving because of their own choice, moving, promotion, etc.), retirements, part-time people will be relieved, transfers, other, and anything that would be in the "best interests of the district". According to the RIF clause in their contracts, the teachers will be pink-slipped by department, in order of their seniority.

In the School Board's process of reviewing the proposed budget for the Oyster River Cooperative School District for next year, two citizens groups have formed, each with its own opinions on the budget. The first group to form was The Oyster River Taxpayers Association. They are proposing a 5.1% cut in the suggested budget, an estimated 1.29 million dollars. The areas that they would like to see affected are: a teacher hiring freeze, moving high school teachers down to the elementary and middle schools, leveling the salary distribution among all the teachers, halting all planning by consultants for a new nigh school for at least the next three years, increasing class sizes and raising student-teacher ratios, decreasing transportation policies, aggres-sively managing the school lunch program, and finally, using vocational students on plant improvements. The group does not believe that these suggested cuts will affect the quality of education.

The second group that has formed in response to the first, calls themselves C.O.R.E., Citizens for Oyster River Education. They strongly believe that these cuts would dramatically affect the quality of education at Oyster River. They feel that raising student-teacher ratios goes against the district's long standing philosophy of "individualized education." They also believe that it's the "one-on-one" feeling students get from a smaller class that allows them to develop learning autonomy, self direction and motivation, greater student responsibility, positive attitudes towards learning and communication, and resourcefulness. They claim the 1991-1992 propsed budget is for maintenance of current programs, and therefore, cannot be cut without the quality of education suffering severely.

Editorials

Should we accept theft at OR?

One of the general purposes of going to school is to better prepare yourself to face the real world upon graduation. The best way to do this is to structure school life so that it is as similar to the real thing as possible. ORHS appears to be doing a fine job considering the amount of crime going on in and around the building. Ms. Winterbottom says there are two or three cases of reported theft every day. That leads to around four hundred incidents in a normal school year.

This student has experienced a couple of those incidents over the years and can address the problem from a personal standpoint. It started last December when fifty dollars of boxer shorts from my economics class were taken from my locker. I have no idea what somebody would do with five pair of boxes (although I might suggest what they could do!), but they were apparently of some use to someone.

A $50 loss can really cripple a high school student financially. A nationwide recession has made jobs and money hard to come by. According to Ms. Winterbottom this economic crunch could be one of the causes for the crime wave. The need for drug money and the inability to enforce the rules enough to discourage stealing were cited as others, but the most startling reason may be that theft has been accepted as a social norm. Twelve out of fourteen students polled in an Oyster River class admitted to stealing something. Usually it is something minor like a pencil, but it conveys the feeling that stealing is O.K. or something to be laughed off.

There are solutions. We could be like the big city schools and have armed police roaming the halls, but that wouldn't go with the "kinder, gentler" school image trying to be portrayed this year. But Ms. Winterbottom and Mr. Shapiro can't be everywhere at once. Another solution could be to frisk everyone as they leave the building. This would help some people make new friends, it would make others uncomfortable, plus the ACLU would be storming the building!

The best and only workable solution was suggested by Ms. Winterbottom: common sense. If you have something valuable, don't leave it in your locker without a lock, or leave the item in the office or carry it with you. I wish I had taken this advice when my yearbook disappeared from my locker last spring. I was only going away for fifteen minutes and my name was printed in gold on the cover. I assumed it would be safe. Assuming this must mean we're not ready for the real world yet.

S.A.D.D. Assembly Should be Given a Higher Priority

At the high school age all of us are taught drug and alcohol awareness. We see and hear all kinds of statistics, but we think these stats are always related to someone else. Numbers and facts do not get to the hearts of students. It is the story of people affected by drugs which moves us and sticks with us forever.

We must give higher priority to assemblies on the subject of the dangers of drugs and alcohol. "We as a school need more assemblies," Megan Mieras, a member of SADD, commented. I'm sorry, but I think SADD is a little more important than five pep rallies."

The administration has said that SADD could have only one assembly. The principal said that the limitation on assemblies is necessary "to keep the school balanced between groups." If the Athletic Council and the Student Council both have pep rallies, is that balanced? Couldn't we add another SADD assembly if that could help even five or six students who are abusing drugs?

Ms. Brown also brought up the issue that students in the past have come to her complaining that the SADD assemblies left the impression that the school thought everyone was on drugs. Those students need to realize that although the assemblies may not seem to relate to them, they may be very important in the lives of some classmates.

Since 92% of all high school seniors by the day of graduation have drunk or tried drugs, doesn't it seem that we could spare a little more time out of our schedule to try to reach a few more? We endorse providing time for another SADD assembly.

Commentary: Iraqi Danger Justifies U.S. Military Presence in The Gulf

by Andrea Collins

I believe that the United States has a responsibility in the Persian Gulf. Our primary objective is, and should be, World Peace. Therefore, the question we must ask ourselves is this: how far are we willing to go in order to support these ideals?

I submit to you that it was the act of aggression against the sovereignty of Kuwait that has led us to station troops. We are obligated by a contract with the Saudis to protect them from any foreign aggression, and by our honor to help protect the world's right to live without fear.

I also believe this is the first real test of our post-cold war detente with the Soviet Union. The United States will undoubtedly play the largest role in any offensive that may occur. This is the burden we must bear, being forever termed "the world's policeman".

However, it has been said, and I will say it again: "It is not the United States against Iraq, it's the World against Iraq." There are currently twenty-six countries with troops stationed in Saudi Arabia. This is a world effort to support the United Nations and its sanctions, not some militant quest for oil.

I acknowledge that there are several factors in our involvement in the Middle East, one of which is oil. Since the gas crunch of the early seventies the United States has actively demonstrated it's dependency on foreign oil. The people laughed at Jimmy Carter when he cautioned us to keep funneling monies into Alternative Energy Research, because by then we had hit the eighties and the cost of barrels of petroleum was at an all-time low. We're not laughing so hard now, Jimmy.

Denying we are unnaturally dependent on the Mid-East's oil not only ignorant, it's pointless. It was very short-sighted to limit our research, and had we not, many people feel that we would not have troops stationed on the Saudi border right now. But I put to you this question: if Iraq had peacefully negotiated an oil price increase with Kuwait's King, how would the United States have reacted? We would have reacted with economic sanctions, only. War would never have become a consideration.

Many of the anti-war activists claim that we need only allow enough time for the economic sanctions to work. This would be an ideal answer to a devastating problem, if only it could work. Unfortunately, it can not. It is a fact that Jordan and Kuwait itself, will reach the point of starvation long before Iraq.

It has been asked why should Americans die in order to preserve some feudal monarchy halfway around the world? My answer is this: it is their God given right to act and live as freely as anyone else. What governmental system they choose to operate under, or their physical proximity to us is inconsequential. People are people, and no one should have to live in fear.

Iraq's invasion of Kuwait is inexcusable, no matter what their grievances may be. We have offered them the use of the World Court and we have invited them to appeal to the United Nations. They have rejected both of these suggestions. Diplomacy is always the best policy, but it doesn't always work. So, we are still faced with the same question.

If World Peace is indeed our primary objective, how far are we willing to go? My answer is... as far as it takes to guarantee that basic human rights and liberties, such as the right to live in peace and without the fear of aggression, do not go unprotected.

SPEAKING OUT

O.R.H.S. Holiday Concert Ignores Minorities

by Eric S. Ritvo

In December, Mr. Twiss and the music department tried "to bring a little more joy" to our holiday season by having a holiday concert. This concert was not for the holidays, as the program said, but solely for Christmas music.

The program presented to the public on Thursday Dec. 20, contained sections entitled, "The Many Moods of Christmas" and "Christmas Cheer." Only two songs were non-religious, and they were: Candleglow and The Snow.

Surprisingly, when the concert was submitted to the students the next day, The Snow was left out.

By featuring music that was predominantly for Christmas, the concert promoted Christianity. It gave the appearance that that religion better than the others in our society. The assembly gave no thought to the minority cultures at O.R.H.S. It was ludicrous that the whole student body was put through this assembly.

This school attempts to teach people not to be ethnocentric and respect others cultures and then turns around and has this concert.

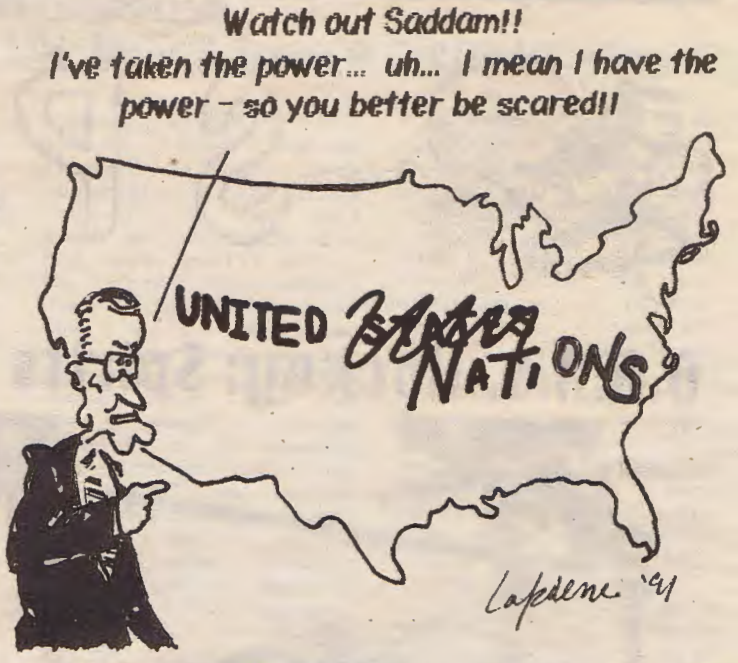
Now, who actually made the selections for which songs were to be sung? Mr. Twiss cites "limitation of available material" and "lack of an open budget" to buy more songs as reasons for the selections of the music. He also said that he and the performers chose the songs together.

Says Assistant Principal Nancy Winterbottom. "The music director has professional judgement and should be sensitive to the multicultural issues and needs of students."

The music director is the adult in charge of music. It is his job to decide which songs are performed and which ones aren't. He is paid to make these decisions. He is required to make them so as to encompass the whole student body, not just the majority. He is the one who is paid to be responsible. He failed this time.

Unfortunately, this may not be the last time that the school is subjected to this form of disrespect. Says Winterbottom, "It (the assembly) is a tradition. It could happen again."

Hopefully next year it will be a holiday concert.



Brooding, Bad-blooded Building?

by Lance Waterfield

Maybe it's just my imagination. Maybe four years in this school have finally driven me insane, but I cannot shake the feeling that Oyster River High is an angry place.

True-we don't have as many fights as say, Somersworth High, but underneath Oyster River's clean cut image there seems to be a somewhat intangible level of anger. People are angry. Angry at teachers, angry at students, angry at themselves. They might not always say it or show it, but there is an edge in their voice and violence in their disposition.

These people don't look at you-they look through you. They're not vacant stares, rather they are piercing stares.

If anyone has a question of there being anger at O.R.H.S. they need only look at one of the walls in the cubicles in the library. This is where we can see the lighthearted messages that students exchange in easy to understand single-syllable words and phrases. It is upon these very walls that students can express their true feelings to teachers and administrators. On these walls anger is expressed.

Another sign of the anger at O.R.H.S. is the way students speak to one another. Walking down the corridor you can hear phrases that Andrew Dice Clay could not think up-references to body parts engaged in unimaginably contorted positions. Scary.

Why is Oyster River angry? Is it because of the pressure put on students to excel? Is it because of the 7 point scale? Maybe it's the pressure to graduate or go to college? Maybe some teachers just don't like young people? Maybe some students just don't like teachers? Whatever the case, Oyster River is angry and it might be time to consider methods of lessening this anger other than just throwing students into detention.

Pep Band adding spirit to the Bobcats

by Kevin Hahn

The new Oyster River pep-band debuted at the varsity basketball team's second game. In the past, pep-bands have consisted of horns and drums playing "We Will Rock You" or "Another One Bites the Dust". This year at Oyster River High School there is a new breed of pep-band. This band's members are Glenn Watt(guitar), Chris Andersen(drums), and Jim Spires (trumpet). This pep-band does not play the cliche pep band songs. Its repertoire includes songs like the Rocky theme, Vengance by Nuclear Assault, the Ultimate Warrior theme, and Take No Prisoners by Megadeth.

The main point about this band is the songs they play. They seem to have broken away from the traditional "pep-band" style. "We play these songs because every other pep-band plays Louie,Louie" we want to play something that will hopefully get the crowd and the team psyched. We (Chris and Glenn) believe these songs are more exciting and more fun than your usual pep-band songs," commented Glenn Watt.

Over all the reception of this "new" pep-band is very good, Mr. Maynard says, "I think the pep-band is great. It's to make noise and compliment the cheerleaders' routines."

"The pep-band gets the adrenalin pumping. It gets the team and the crowd excited," said Evan Wallman, member of the boys varsity basketball team.

"The cheerleaders are very excited about the posibility of having a pep-band because any thing that raises more excitment and spirit is great," said cheerleader Andrea Collins.

Budget Cuts Threaten Essential Courses

by Nathan Lapierre

Many courses and teachers are being threatened by the budget cuts proposed to the School Board. Two of the classes in jeopardy are American Studies and Womens Literature.

The Oyster River curriculum has become quite diverse over the past decade with the addition of certain classes dedicated towards overcoming the stereotypes and prejudices that are part of American society.

One of these classes is American Studies (with interdisciplinary teachers Mr. Herlihy, Mrs. Whaley and Mr. Childs) the purpose of which is to expose students to the "underside," or the lesser known and often omitted topics, in the areas of history, literature and the arts.

Other classes at ORHS do not deal with the subjects presented:

Student Council discussing the budget cuts.

U.S. History II primarily focuses on the "white male" section of history, where the text presents what white men do and only examine minorities in special, segregated articles. American Studies greatly extends its focus on minorites through the course and often deals with their treatment, suppression and segregation from mainstream society.

Another class is Mrs. Whaley's Womens Literature course, outlined in the course selection guide as a course "for both sexes" which introduces "women from a wide variety of societies... in their struggle to achieve freedom from traditional roles." The course also helps students learn to "increase (their) awareness of women's issues."

The Womens Literature class does a terrific job of exposing women's issues that are the foundation of understanding how women have been and are discriminated against. As the course guideline ensures, this is a class for both sexes. However, the class is beneficial for different reasons depending upon the sex of the student. Women learn the history of their discrimination and how being a strong woman can change other's views. Men become aware that they are a part of a prejudiced society. After learning that they are prejudiced, even though they didn't realize before, the class helps establish new morals and makes the students more aware of the prejudice in society. Men who feel threatened to take the class need to realize that the class is their to make them a more aware and unprejudiced person.

With all of the budget cuts that OR is facing, please think about the importance of these classes to the curriculum. If they were to be cut, students would have no opportunities to learn about minorities and issues left out of other classes. Other budget reductions have been proposed which may cut classes and teachers that have produced the varied and incomparable education currently available. I urge you to support these and other programs that are in danger due to the budget cuts. Also, if you are a Senior please register to vote so you can have a say in what you would like to see left in the ORHS curriculum for future years.

SPORTS

O.R.H.S. Hockey: Spirits high despite early season struggle

John Roy sneaks in one of ten points in OR's win over Winnacunnet

by Ben Hudson

Monday night at Snively Arena the Oyster River varsity hockey team met the Toppers of Somersworth in a display of hard hitting play which left O.R. down, 8-2.

The 19 man varsity team, coached by Jeff Smith, has had its fair share of ups and downs over the past two months since tryouts. A major down has been their record of 1 win, 5 losses, and 1 tie. Coach Smith commented, "We've been playing very well, our record doesn't show the talent and ability this team has."

The coach is not the only one who feels the team is better than their record. Fans and players alike have mentioned that the team has the ability, offensively and defensively, to be a winning team and that their record does not do them justice. "Another 'down' was our loss to Dover," said Captain Toby Mautz, "It was a big game which we needed to win."

"We just can't seem to get the puck in the net.... we can get control and set up plays, but we just can't finish the plays off." commented Chris Loughlin just a couple of hours before their win over Winnacunnet in which he gained a hat trick (3 goals).

There is good news for O.R. hockey fans, the 'ups' even out and compensate for the 'downs' of this season.

There are 19 'ups' in fact. Captains Toby Mautz and Mike Williams are 'ups' with 3 goals and 163 saves, respectively. Other 'ups' include John Roy with 7 goals, Chris Loughlin with 3 goals 2 assists, Alex Roy with 2 goals, John Hill with 2 and 2, Lance Waterfield 1 and 2, Danny Gault 1 goal, Scott Matseas with 6 assists, plus other up

Hockey cont. pg. 11

Girls' Basketball off to improved 6-4 season

By Gabe Wallman

The Oyster River Girls' basketball team has begun the 1990-1 season with a record of 6 wins and 4 losses.

The Bobcats began the season with four consecutive victories. Since then they lost their next 4 games before winning their last two. In between their 4 losses OR was champion in the Exeter Christmas tournament.

The Bobcats began the season with two victories over Mt. St. Mary, and one each against Timberlane and Merrimack Valley.

During the second half of OR's victory over Merrimack Valley sophomore starter Jen Friel rolled her ankle in an attempt to stop. Although the injury left the team without their leading scorer Coach Cathy Baker feels the injury had a positive effect on the team and said,"The other kids realized they were capable of doing things they didn't know they could.

Although the injury had a positive aspect on the Bobcats they missed her offensive scoring punch. Following her injury the team lost its last two games before the Christmas break. First to Somersworth then they fell victim to Goffstown 53-41¢

Over the Christmas vacation OR participated in the Exeter tournament along with Exeter, St. Thomas, and Georgetown High in Massachussets. The Bobcats defeated St.Thomas in the first round to advance to the finals against host Exeter. The game was close throughout as the two teams went into halftime with a tie and Exeter up by one at the end of the third quarter. In the final quarter the Bobcats outscored Exeter by 5 points as OR came away with a 54-50 victory. Sophomore Stefany Shaheen received all tourney and senior Sue Varholy received tourney MVP. Baker feels that it meant more to the team rather than just two victories and commented," It showed that hard work was producing something."

Returning to the regular season the Bobcats lost their last two games. They fell to Kennett on the road 59-46. Sophomores Jen Friel and Stefany Shaheen led the Bobcats with 13 points a piece. The Kennett loss was followed by a tough 40-34 loss to Pembroke. Sophomore Jen Friel carried the Bobcats in a losing cause with 18 points. When asked about the recent losing streak sophomore Holly MacKay commented," The rhythm has not been there lately partly because of the fact we are playing tougher teams now."

Girls' B.B cont. pg. 7

OR Boys' Basketball roars off to 5-1 start second-best record in Class"I"

by Jennifer Thompson

The boy's basketball team has the second best record in the state, with 5 wins and 1 loss, surpassed only by Con-Val, who is 4 and 1. The team does not have "one outstanding player" as in past years, according to coach Don Maynard. Junior Scott Poteet, a point guard, listed this as an asset to the team, because "although we have the potential to have one or two outstanding players, we work as a team. If we continue to improve as a team, it'll help us."

The sole loss to date was against returning state champs Merrimack Valley in the season opener, 53 to 86. Merrimack Valley is, said senior Erik Halldorson, "one of the best teams in the state." "We look forward to playing them again," added classmate Evan Wallman. The Bobcats get their second chance on January 18th, when they play what Wallman dubbed the toughest week of the season, including the MV game and one against Pembroke.

Two of the 5 wins came against Somersworth High School, who Wallman claimed were "the best 0 and 5 team." The first game ended with a score of 73 to 60. The second game against Somersworth ended with the Bobcats ahead 63 to 57. "We should have killed them...We had a bad fourth quarter," Wallman said.

Other wins were against Goffstown (63 to 56), Kennett (82 to 48), and Sanborn (53 to 41). After the Sanborn game, Poteet said that "Our team is finally coming together, because we show more respect for each other, and we care about each

Bobcats Eric Tyler, Bryan Rutland, David Delude, and Eric Halldorson watch the ball

The Bobcat boys also participated in a Christmas Tournament in Portsmouth which head coach Don Maynard said "gave us an opportunity to play against three really good teams."

B-BALL CONT. ON PG. 7

Commentary

If you pay, you should play

Athletes, do you feel you are being unfairly benched? If you do then you probably are. You probably feel you deserve at least some playing time every game.

In practice, you pay dues, try your hardest, maintain a positive attitude and on most teams end up being benched regardless of what you have done. You travel two hours into the shadowy depths of northern New Hampshire and end up being benched. You have made the commitment and deserve to play because nothing can replace the experience of playing in a real game.

You might be afraid that if you speak up, then the situation will only be made worse. Your parents (who are probably avid spectators) may see a problem, but may not speak up for the same reason.

It is the athletic director's job to supervise the coaches. While it is impossible for him to solve every little problem, the playing time situation is not an isolated problem. On nearly every team, playing time allotment is a problem. He claims he has looked into this issue (and he very well may have) a change has not occured and there is no solution coming in the near future. Acknowledgement of the problem is half the battle, while the other lies in doing something about it.

Contrary to what they say they believe, it is the philosophy of this school and its athletic department that winning is more important than any other aspect of athletics. Face it, ORHS is a competitive school. But the athletic department sticks by quotes like "Winning is for a day: Sportsmanship and Ethics are for a lifetime." Sure, winning is good but there are other things like learning to win and lose as a team. By the end of the season those individual wins will all be forgotten while the friendships and bonds that can be formed will last significantly longer. If you have a bench that has a jealous hatred toward those who "start" then the team structure simply crumbles to the ground. There are, of course, those who want to play just to be with their friends and get in some quality exercise. But, the coach of team, at the very least needs to tell that individual that he won't be playing much so that he/she can make the decision to play before the season starts. It doesn't always happen that way but it should because its just a common courtesy.

A minimum of five or

PLAYING CONT. ON PG.8

Commentary and response

Do athletes on the bench have a right to play?

by David Nichols

I find some good points in Scott Davis' article regarding playing time in athletics; some things that I could support, and some points to consider.

Unfortunately we have a very different opinion on how the school and Athletic Dept. feel about the goals of interscholastic athletics.

Our coaching handbook lists the goals and objectives of the school and department. There is absolutely no mention of winning as a goal, or even as a measure of success. We do have some programs that win a high percentage of games every year. Those coaches are not rewarded with more money, longer contracts, or any other special considerations that the other coaches don't also receive. It doesn't even guarantee job security (and shouldn't).

The coach's evaluation forms that I fill out each year have no category for their season record or number of championships, etc. I admit that there is often pressure placed on athletes and coaches to win, but it does not come from the Athletic Dept. or the school administrations. It comes from the players themselves, the parents, and other spectators, and yes, the coach. We want all teams to strive to win, by doing the best that they can each time out. However, some programs simply aren't very successful in that regard. As far as I know, our softball team has never qualified for the state tournament. Our field hockey team has really struggled over the last several years, and even the ice hockey team has had some rough seasons recently. If winning were "more important than any other aspect of athletics," as Scott has claimed, then we would have dropped those programs so that treams like soccer, volleyball, basketball and baseball could get even stronger.

Participation is the important thing. We have about 65% of our students participating in an athletic team each year. That figure is very high for a public high school. There aren't any other public schools in N.H. our size that have an many programs, or teams as Oyster River. Our middle school intramural program certainly supports participation over competition. If our district were adamantly seeking winning teams at all costs we would drop intramurals and have a highly competitive slate of teams with extensive schedules as exist in some other areas. I hope that never happens.

In my own high school days I was never a starter so I do understand Scott's frustration and that of others in similar positions. I don't know of any NH schools that have mandated playing time for all athletes at all levels. Personally, I feel all JV and freshman level teams should play everyone who has faithfully attended practaice, followed all team rules, and is healthy for each contest. Many coaches have the same feelings and implement that policy.

Mandating the same policy for all varsity teams as well would sprove difficuslt, but not impossible. There are many related questions to consider. A big concern is how it would be implemented, supervised, and what effect would it have on the number of players making a team. Coaches would likely choose fewer players if they had to guarantee all of them a certain amount of playing time. I would have preferred to be on the team and not played very much rather than never make the team. Some feel there are benefits to just being a part of the group, practicing daily, and hanging out with friends that outweigh how often they got to play. It's something that everyone has to decide on his/her own because the circumstances are not always the same. Not

NICHOLS CONT. ON PG.8

Girls' B.B from pg. 6

The 6-4 start is a surprise to a lot of people, Dawn Elynn Bosquin thinks that it is mostly psychological and says, "When we started winning in the beginning we started to go into every game expecting to win." Stefany Shaheen agrees and says," In order to win we must know we can do it and not doubt it."

Varsity Bobcat players include seniors Rosemary Boone, Lori Slippy, Brenda Worden, Dawn Elynn Bosquin, Sue Varholy, Elaine Courtemanche, juniors Julie Walsh, Lesley Anderson, Sarah Heath, and sophomores Stefany Shaheen, Jen Friel, and Holly McKay.

OR plays at Timberlane on Thursday before they look to avenge their earlier loss to Somersworth as they take them on at home on January 25.

Winter Track

Distance runners help team

by Jessica Surdam

The Oyster River boys winter track team finished in 3rd place at their January 12th meet at UNH, and 3rd and 4th at previous meets. At the Dartmouth Relays senior Brendan Crill placed 5th in the tri-state mile. The team is lead by Crill, juniors Brandon Ammann and Roberto Acosta, and sophomore Russ Warren, who all qualified for the state meet in various events. Sophomore Cot Chanthakoumane is the teams leading sprinter, according to coach Joe Scascitelli.

According to Scascitelli, the team is mostly experianced with middle and distance events. " This is the rebuilding year for sprinters. Our long distance runners have always been strong," commented Scascitelly. " This year we are stronger than we have been in the past two years. This is because we have been willing to work harder and put more effort into doing well," he added.

We've got a lot of team spirit.... Even though we lack cheerleaders, fans, waterbottles, and uniforms we are still doing well," commented captain Crill.

Team members are seniors Brendan Crill and Nathan Lapeirre, Ammann, Roberto Acosta, Jamie Archie, and Sebastien Roy, sophomores Russ Warren, Josh Learner, Mark MacBeth, Gabe Brown, Mike Northrup, Eric Harter, Phil Nazarro, Cot Chanthakoumane, and Kyle Krous

Their next meet is on January 19 at UNH.

Swim Team 1-1 season

by Susan Mertens

The Oyster River High School swim team took the win over Keene but lost to Dover by ten points in their first meet Sunday, December 30th.

Junior Amy Priestly went away with first place in the diving event. Sophomore Todd Whitford was awarded first place in the 500 free and the 100 fly. Senior and co-captain Alex Reyna received first place for the 100 back, and contributed a third place in the 200 IM. Junior Mary McCleery swam for two second places in the 200 free and the 100 breaststroke.

The swim team consists of two seniors: Co-captain Alex Reyna and Danielle Wellesly, four juniors: Co-Captain Larissa Herold, Liz Bucar, Mary McCleery, Frank Sabin, and Amy Priestly, and four sophomores: Chris Cloitre, Steve Crawford, Mike Johnston, and Todd Whitford. The swim team practices on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday between 5:30 A.M. to 7:00 A.M. and From 2:30 P.M. to 3:30 P.M.

Co-Captain Alex Reyna feels that they did not perform as well as they should have. "Not enough people came to the meet. That really hurt us." Junior Mary McCleery added "We swam hard, but we didn't have enough pool time."

The swim team was scheduled to have meets on January 5th and January 9th. They were cancelled due to the weather.

B-BALL CONT. FROM PG. 6

According to Wallman, the first game, against Hand High of Connecticut, was their best tournament game. Other games were played against Massachusetts' St. John's Prep, and Maine's York High School. Although non-victorious in all three games, there were some positive aspects, as stated by Wallman and Halldorson. These good points were several three pointers by junior Bryan Rutland in the first game, in which Scott Poteet "set the tempo." Halldorson added that in the first game Wallman "took the ball to the hole strongly," and Sam Poole scored seventeen points in his best game of the season.

The Bobcats play Pembroke on January 15th, Merrimack Valley on January 18th, Sanborn the 26th, and Laconia the 29th.

DISCOVER YOUR FATE THROUGH THE STARS

by Glenn Watt

Capricorn - Dec. 22 to Jan. 21: This month is your ideal time to push your physical abilities to the limit in order to achieve personal satisfaction. Try to keep from being too serious with your peers as it may put your friendships on the rocks. If you're having your septic tank pumped this month, make sure the contractor is not an Aries because you could be left standing knee deep in your past.

Aquarius - Jan. 21 to Feb. 19: Social matters will be your high point this month. Trying to further new relationships will be very rewarding. But try to keep old friends away from your ankles as you may find it can ruin your relationships.

Pisces - Feb. 19 to March 20: Your sensitivity will bring happiness not only to you but to others around you. Good karma and self sacrifice are virtues that will brighten your future. Try to fight any temptations to eat pigs' feet for it will bring great pain to your small intestine.

Aries - March 21 to April 21: Your aggressive, impatient attitude may be your downfall this month. If you're an athlete, your aggression may leave you warming the bench for your teammates. Aries should try to avoid any potential sexual activity.

Taurus - April 21 to May 22: Attempting to open yourself to others will help you bring harmony to your life. You may find that your sociability will attract people with similar tastes. If you have bodily fluids draining down the back of your throat, try to live with it. Though your breath may drive friends away, your sickness will end up cleansing your system and leave you with attractive ears.

Gemini - May 22 to June 22: Diplomacy will be a virtue for you this month. But remember, the key to diplomacy is being able to say "nice doggie" until you can find a rock. Try to keep from criticizing people larger than you for you may soon find you'll have problems using your arms and legs.

Cancer - June 22 to July 23: If you're a female Cancer, you may find great pain this month which may seem recurring. Do not let your moodiness ruin the day for others. If you're a male you will most likely have overwhelming feelings of sensitivity. Do not fight these feelings for they will help you comfort others who may be in need.

Leo - July 23 to Aug. 24: Your self expression will bring you a certain sense of leadership. Male Leos; do not let your vanity get in the way of matters of the heart. It will not only leave you with a sore heart but a severe limp. Working on your individuality will definitely further your personal style and popularity.

Virgo - Aug. 24 to Sept. 23: An obvious thinker, Virgo is also multifaceted and diverse. But do not let your diversity interrupt your social life, especially if you're a hermaphrodite. Speaking your mind will bring you attention this month. While not all of the attention will be positive, it will bring you respect from others.

Libra - Sept. 23 to Oct. 23: Working out problems with enemies past and present could ease your life. Your persuasion should win over the understanding of others. Try to keep from becoming green with jealousy of a Pisces this month as you may lose touch with your harmonious sense.

Scorpio - Oct. 23 to Nov. 23: Beware! The inability to relieve your bladder at the correct times may mean a loss of friendship between you and another. Try to keep from becoming rebellious this month as you may find yourself in great trouble with our beloved Durham police force.

Sagittarius - Nov. 23 to Dec. 22: Your optimism will help you greatly in the future. But beware; long haired Sagittarius' should not mess with Aquarius' this month as you may find yourself in excruciating physical pain. You will have great abilities to philosophize and find inner peace. Meditation is a choice way to relax.

SPEECH CONT. FROM PG.12

they promote behavior that the school does not condone. One argument is that drinking is a true social problem; co-ed naked volleyball is not.

"I've heard teachers complain about certain shirts, words or Drinking Club shirts.

"They'll let us wear other school's but not Oyster River Naked Volleyball shirts," complained some students. There is a reason for this. It is because the shirts have the school name on them. While the school cannot prevent you from putting 'Oyster River' on something, they can prevent you for wearing it in school or at school related activities.

The drinking club shirts were met with adversity when circulated last year. The shirt displayed a Bobcat on the front, saying: "The only way to go is through a funnel". Both shirts are prohibited, because styles, and other teachers say 'oh, that's okay'. I've heard parents complain, and others say 'oh that's fine'," said Winterbottom. Back to the gray area.

There are more sides to this issue then just the OR administrators picking on student's clothing. There must be a compromise, between those who want to restrict and those who rebel. Anything could cause a disturbance; a word may cause an argument. Our Constitution says that we must take the risk of variation, deviating from the view of another person.

From the book the "Law and Public Education" "...our history says that it is this sort of hazardous freedom - this kind of openness - that is the basis of our national strength and of the independence and vigor of Americans who grow up and live in this relatively permissive, often disputatious society."

Winter Track

Girls plagued by injuries

by Jessica Surdam

Oyster River girls winter track team competed in a nonscoring meet on January 13th at UNH and finished 5th and 8th in previous meets. The team is lead by seniors Jen Thompson, and Jen Jenkins, sophomore Amy Levesque, and junior Mara Kerns, according to first year coach Wayne Scott.

According to Scott, there are not many sprinters or field athletes. Most of the team are middle distance and long distance runners. However, Levesque jumped 13'6" in the long jump her first time competing on January 5th. Presently sophomore Amy Ulrich is training for discus but isn't ready to compete.

"I don't consider regular season meets to be that important. The goal is to be ready for the state meet (the last meet of the year). We'll have a few people ready for it." says Scott. " It's been a tough year as far as injuries and sicknesses go," he continued. Senior Steph Chasteen suffers a stress fracture in her shin. "they are not expecting great things from me this season" commented Chasteen. There have also been a few cases of strep and one case of mono. "But," Scott added, " I still think we'll be ready for the state meet."

The Bobcats next meet will be Saturday, Jan. 19 at UNH.

PLAYING CONT.FROM PG. 7

ten minutes every game for every player is not a lot to ask. At the JV and freshmen levels it shouldn't have to be requested, it should already be happening.

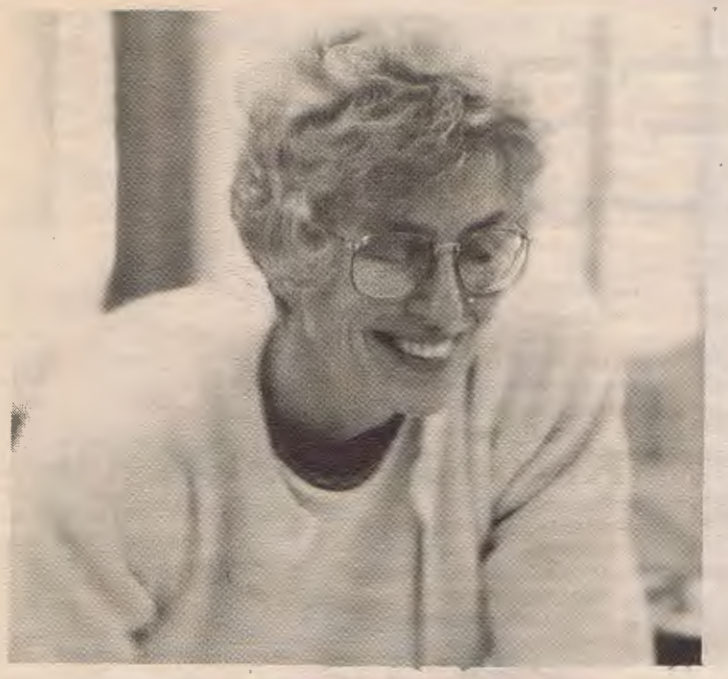
Mr. Nichols made it abundantly clear that any athlete who sees this or anything else as a problem should feel free to talk to him any time. If no one steps up, nothing will change, but if enough people do then a change is in the near future.

NICHOLS CONT. FROM PG.7

everyone could agree on how much playing time is fair, either.

Presently when I see that someone hasn't played or has seen very little playing time in a game, I question the coach. Coaches are constantly urged to play more people, and I give them ideas on how to do it successfully. Ideally, we would have intramurals, club sports, and interscholastic teams, so that everyone would have the opportunity to decide what was best for them, and still have a chance for participation in athletics. We just don't have the physical or financial resources to provide everything. I will bring this matter up at the next Athletic Council meeting for student athlete input. I dofeel pretty good about what we do have. I'd like to hear how others feel. Let me know.

Oyster River's cheerleading squad boost Bobcat power. Captain Audrey Graves (center bottom) and Ruth Bristol (6th from left top) are the only veterans. New members are: Jen Bratt, Chrissy Jackson, Heather James, Jessica Orkin, Erica Beck, Ruth Bristol, Meredith Sawyer, Sara Shoemaker, Mandy Tappan. Surrounding Bobcat Dean Kennedy are Andrea Collins and Quincy Souza. (Yearbook photo)



Ms. Winterbottom talks with Mouth of the River reporter in her office.

It's a Winterview!!!!

ORHS Assistant Principal speaks out

by Scott Davis

Ms. Nancy Winterbottom, Assistant Principal for Student Services, was recently interviewed. She is responsible for overseeing student services such as attendance, discipline, and welfare of a student. She also works with the school calendar, budget and the outreach with community and parents. When asked if she liked her job , she replied "I love my job, most days."

M.O.R.: What is your basic philosophy as far as your job is concerned?

N.W.: Education is the greatest gift we can receive. Education leads to more fulfillment in life. I think I have strengths as an administrator and counselor, but would not be a very good teacher and it gives me the opportunity to promote education and to make the school a better place for teachers to do what they do best.

M.O.R.: What is your past training?

N.W.: I have a doctorate in educational management from Harvard and a master's in counseling from UNH.

M.O.R.: How do you maintain a positive atttitude?

N.W.: It's taken a couple of years--I try to make a habit of finding positive things--one good thing every day. Focus on positive. I'm disciplined about separating personal life and school life. At the end of the work day-I stop.

M.O.R.: What are some of your outside activities?

N.W.: Running, being a mom - which is my favorite, entertaining friends at my house, maintaining my home and reading. I also try to go back to Cambridge once a month. I also have a private practice in counseling in my home which is related to my career but not to this job exclusively.

M.O.R.: I've been told that you object to the

Winter cont. pg. 11

Mark Allen reviews albums

By Mark Allen

Todd Rundgren / Nearly Human

A good name for this album would be nearly perfect, and the name fits well. His latest effort is really a great album. His vocals sound great and the songs are written well. It's enjoyable all the way through.

The album starts out with a catchy tune called, "The Want of a Nail." What makes it so much fun are both the horn arrangements and the accompanying piano. Also the lyrics contain a message about how greed can lead to war. The want of a nail eventually leads to the want of war and how the kingdom will be lost. The album finishes with a neat song titled "I Love My Life" It's all about how foolish we are. One line from the song goes "time is an illusion," and I think he's trying to say that the things in our world are real, but only because we believe in them.

Todd Rundgren's music is great because he's always changing and taking chances, regardless of commercial success. He's taken many different ideas and turned them into solid sounding albums. He writes for singers and that alone is unique in the world of rock-n-roll.

If you're into intelligent song writing and variations on the traditional rock-n-roll theme topped off by what has to be one of the best voices in the rock world, today or ever, then I suggest you pick up a copy of this album.

The Jeff Healey Band / Hell To Pay

This is Jeff Healey's newest album and what fun it is. His unique style of guitar-playing combined with writing and choosing good quality songs delivers an album well worth your time.

One of the best songs on the album is his version of the Beatle's classic "While My Guitar Gently Weeps." The writer of this song, former Beatle George Harrison, does us a favor by sitting in on guitars and backing vocals. Another strong point was his choice for keyboards, Paul Shaffer of the Late Night With David Letterman Band. There is no doubt that being good at surrounding himself with quality musicians is something that helps the album a lot. His songs are at times repetitive, but true talent always shines through.

I enjoyed this album, mostly because when you listen to it, you get a sense of how much fun the musicians are having. That's really important because if they are having fun, you will too.

MAJOR INCREASE IN THIEVERY REPORTED TO FACULTY BOARD

by John Waskiewicz

This year, O.R.H.S. students are reporting objects stolen two or three times a day. Three years ago theft was reported two or three times a week. Commonly stolen items are calculators and money left in hall lockers.

Social Studies teacher Phyllis Pomerleau suspects that the number of valuables stolen is actually much greater, but students don't bother to report it. After polling her students, Pomerleau was shocked when 12 out of 14 admitted to having stolen something. "These are good kids doing bad things," commented Pomerleau. "Somewhere along the line, they are'nt learning the moral values of society. Stealing has become more socially acceptable. Some people feel they have to steal to be accepted," she added.

Assistant Principal for student sevices, Nancy Winterbottom, feels there is just no way to stop students from stealing out of other students lockers. Winterbottom believes that students need to be more aware of the difference between right and wrong. "Many people steal for drug money," added Winterbottom who sees a connection between the drug culture and stealing.

Senior Brendan Crill leaves his valuables at home. Other students have resorted to locking valuables in their cars. "We don't have enough time between classes to use locks on our lockers," commented senior Sarah Whitten.

Everyone seems to agree that locks are not a solution to the epidemic. Senior Marnie Hilton suggests that common sense will help to discourage theft more than anything else.

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Bands Dominate ORHS's Talent Show Program

By Gabe Wallman

Senior members of the girls' basketball team began the 6th annual talent show which presented 8 acts to the student body on December 21.

The Electric Five, Sue Varholy, Brenda Worden, Dawn Ellyn Bosquin, Lori Slippy, and Elaine Courtemache performed the electric slide.

The electric slide was followed by seven band performances. Cream of Wheat, The River Band, If, Crippled Chicken, Garbadium, Undeserved spankings, and Groove Child.

Lou Mroz who has been directing the talent show throughout its 6 year existence commented, "Generally speaking it went very well and the students showed they had a good time." He added, "I would have liked to see the faculty more involved and more varied acts."

The talent show was an entertaining event for the viewers as well as a publicity event for the performers. Junior Angela Twombly commented, "It is nice to know that we can unwind before we leave for vacation." Junior Jim Spires, a member of Crippled Chicken, added "It is good for unknown bands to be presented

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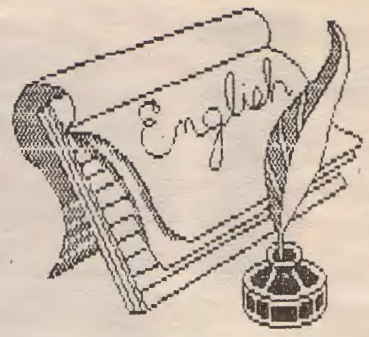
FEATURES



WINTER DOLDRUMS

OR STUDENTS WOULD RATHER SKI THAN GO TO SCHOOL

by Eric S. Ritvo

Cruising along at 75 m.p.h., the four occupants inside the car are so excited the windows are fogged up. The skis are perched atop the automobile as the volume of voices increases due their excitement. The kids aren't on their weekend, they are making one when they should be in school.

Skiing is on the rise in popularity, and Oyster River High is no exception. Most people are skiing and other activities are suffering due to this new activity. Skiing has been dubbed the "greatest activity on Earth" by some students.

At O.R.H.S., 77% of the students ski. Out of these people, 44% of them have missed school due to skiing.

Oyster River High doesn't provide a ski team for its students. Twelve years ago there was a team, but a lack of snow was the main cause for its cancellation. It would be quite difficult to get a team going now, according to Athletic Director Dave Nichols. He cites the cost of gas, proximity to a mountain, students having to provide their own equipment, and Durham weather conditions as reasons for there not being a team. He says that if there was a team it would operate much like swimming, where the team would go to the mountain once or twice a week and the rest of the time work with weights. Currently, twelve schools have competing ski teams in class L&I.

The Athletic Council is trying to help students find an outlet for their passion for the ski slopes. Sophomores John Hill and Josh Hardy, both members of the council, are leading the charge for the creation of this club. Says John Hill, "The biggest obstacle in our way is a teacher advisor. If we could get one, the club would fly."

At Waterville Valley, looking up from the bottom of the mountain, the various types of skiing are seen. the students are carving down the mountain on snowboards, bouncing through the moguls on skis, and telemarking. At another place in this resort, people are going through the trails on their cross-country skis.

The students here enjoy all the types of skiing listed above About 80% of the skiers go downhill, while 42% cross-country ski. Telemarking and snowboarding are smaller groups, but are on the rise with some students planning to try these techniques this winter.

Tuckermans Ravine: Josh Hodsdon recovering on a "sick day

Oyster River students enjoy skiing mainly at Sunday River, Killington, and Loon. Other favorites include: Gunstock, Sugarloaf, Waterville Valley, and places out west. King Pine was the one area that students have shown an extreme dislike for.

At 11:30 p.m., later that night, my friends are sitting at their desks with their books open and the nightlight on. They haven't had time to talk to their friends on the phone or watch television. By taking the day off, they also have more homework to do. Says junior skier Seamus Fleming, "It is just like being sick, you are out one day and you do the work."

When asking the skiers if their grades suffer due to the lost school day most replied no. James Dolan, a junior skier says, "I get my homework done ahead of time, so I'm not overloaded." An anonymous senior said, "Skiing relaxes me. It helps me get through the week."

Some skiers have parental consent and their parents will write a note saying that the student was home sick, others just sneak out and forge a note. Fleming says, "It depends on the situation, they (parents) are just concerned with tests and grades."

People love skiing because of all the different aspects involved. The art of skiing requires superb physical condition, quick turns, and a love

Ski cont. on p. 11

O.R.H.S. Dance Attendance: Where is Everybody Going ??????

by Jessica Thibault

Let's go back a bit. It's September and everyone is psyched to see all their friends again. The first dance approaches. Eager to spend time with their long-lost companions, many students go to the senior dance. And most have a good time.

A month goes by and the junior dance arrives. Some people return. Others, having missed the first one, decide to go, but some decide they'd rather see a movie or go to the beach than hang out at school.

Little by little dance attendance decreases and by the time the freshman dance rolls around, only a handful of students attend. Is it that we don't care about supporting the frosh? Or could it be that we have better things to do than spend our Friday nights complaining about the music, the lack of breathable air, the scorching heat and the continuous bumping into teachers and cops?

Maybe it's because once we get into the school year, we want to spend as little time as possible anywhere near the school. Or perhaps it's the atmosphere. No matter how flashy or mysterious they try to make it with lights and mist, it's still the school cafeteria. It will always be a place of food and early morning studying. Somehow there just isn't that certain ambience.

Oyster River High has had a history of low enthusiasm levels when it comes to dances. Most people go to the senior dance, psyched and ready to boogie, but are reminded why they skipped out on the last few the year before and make a note not to bother to go to any more. It's a vicious cycle that occurs year after year.

Is there a solution for this dilemma? How can we keep a high level of enthusiasm? We have a wide variety of students at this school so musical taste varies greatly. DJ's play slow songs and we want fast; M.C. Hammer and people want Zeppelin; Floyd and people want thrash; New Kids on the Block and- well, anything would be better. The point is, it's hard to please everyone.

Then, there's the price. People want better DJ's like WHEB, but they complain about shelling out the $3. We get what we pay for. We're stuck between a rock and a hard place.

What I'm trying to say is that people take the dances too seriously. You're supposed to have fun. So they play something you don't like. Just sit it out. They're a fun way to support the classes. So get together with some friends and relax. The more the merrier.

Ben Stamper makes each brush stroke count as he works on a project in art. Many students find that creative expression helps keep high school pressures in perspective.

Registration denied by checklist supervisors

by Joshua Hodsdon

Student council and State and Local Government class had scheduled a voter registration day on January 10 at the High School. Flyers informing students of the date were sent out last Monday. They were told to bring a birth certificate or a passport for proof of age. Instead, they received on the 9th, another flyer informing them that the registration date had been cancelled due to "scheduling problems" at Town Hall and that the Supervisor of the checklist would be unable to attend.

For the past 3 or 4 years eligible students have had the convenience of registering to vote at the school. In those years there was never any "scheduling problem".

In the past the Town offices have also scheduled registration dates for eligible students at UNH. However due to conflicts between UNH offices and town Hall, UNH's registration date was cancelled.

Even with the cancellation at UNH the registrars from each town: William Prince from Durham, Pam Seaver of Madbury, and Joan Sealy of Lee, had agreed to come to Oyster River to help register the students. The Town clerk however felt that if they weren't going to register UNH students then they wouldn't register the students from Oyster River. The Town clerk used some registration laws, that had been overlooked in the registrars not to come to ORHS. Hence the "scheduling problem".

Mrs. Whitten said, "I am very dissapointed that we are unable to register eligible students".

Student council does, however, encourage all eligible students to go to their respective Town Halls and register to vote as there are many topics that should concern you. The dates and times you can register to vote are as follows: Durham - five days a week, every week 8:00 to 5:00.

Lee - every Monday, Wednesday, Friday 9:00 to 5:00

Madbury - every Monday, Wednesday, Friday 8:00 to 1:00 Mondays >> 6:00 to 8:00 pm

Continued

Ski, cont. from p. 10

of the adrenaline rush only achieved by embarking on a new trail. Says junior skier Greg Provencher, "I love the speed and steepness of the terrain. Skiing allows you to be challenged as much as you want."

While downhillers, snowboarders, and telemarkers ski at the mountains, cross-country skiers can enjoy their sport right in Durham, weather permitting. They will carve their way through College Woods, or any snow covered field. Most cross-country skiers love the scenery and peacefulness of skiing across open fields.

Skiing takes precedence over other activities because of varying weather conditions. A new coat of powder will persuade any skier to head to the slopes instead of the classroom. Skiing gives feelings that cannot be attained anywhere else. With one of the heavier snowfalls expected this winter, many people will be missing school due to the "greatest activity on Earth."

Talent cont. from pg. 9

in a fun atmosphere in front of their fellow classmates."

The talent show concluded with Groove Child consisting of Andy Lanoie, Brian Killough, Jim Spires, Jeff Bibbo, and Josh Stamper. During their performance the students really got into their music. When given the opportunity, several of the students began slam dancing. Others were dancing on the stage as well as on the floor. Senior Evan Wallman was particularly impressed with Groove Child's performance and commented, "their music displayed the most originality, they performed the best and had the best visuals."

Seniors from pg. 1

re-call your application, most schools will call the other school, and both schools will take back your acceptance. I think the Ivy League puts out a black list of students, to other colleges."

"If you can find the one, come up with a clear choice, you save yourself a lot of work," said Brendan Crill, accepted to Brown University. "Another disadvantage," he continued, "is starting other applications, if you don't get in early. Luckily I did."

Hockey cont. from pg. 6

and coming talents; Mike "Mongo" Moriarty, Blake Garrigan, Jeff Bibbo, Owen Bruder, Darren Miller, Scott Troxell, Matt Blasik, Scott McGarrell, Ed Priestly, and last but far from least, Mike Merenda who was injured in Monday's game with a strained ligament.

Another major up of the season was their win over Winnacunnet, 10-1. "We finally found the net," noted John Roy who had two goals in the game. Not only was the goal found in this game, but so was the penalty box. Both teams accumulated 13 penalties combined plus a misconduct penalty against the Warriors.

"It was a good feeling to finally win," said Mautz. Unfortunately it has been their only win thus far.

REMINDER: all home games take place at Snively arena.

Winter, cont from pg. 9

pledge of allegiance. What is your view on this issue?

N.W.: I think to pledge allegience is a commitment to nationalism and for me there are more important things than nationalism, like global peace, world hunger, and pacifism. I'm a Quaker.

M.O.R.: It has been noticed that the setting of your office is unique to the rest of the building, why is this so?

N.W.: First of all it's very intentional, the stereotype of my position is cold. My intention is to create an environment where

Comm. cont. from p. 2

has given me the opportunity to meet more Oyster River students.

kids, teachers, parents, whomever can feel comfortable.

The second part is that I spend a lot of time here and for my own survival I want it the way I want.

M.O.R.: What about the lighting, or lack of?

N.W.: I usually flip the lights on around 4:00 or on gloomy days but I like natural light.

M.O.R.: How do you plan to enforce the new smoking ban that will be in effect on January 1, 1991?

N.W.: Frankly, we haven't discussed it as a staff and I presume that we'll post the law and cooperate with state officials--state police will be handling it. We will continue what we're doing.

M.O.R.: What if a student catches a faculty member?

N.W.: The student should talk to that person first and if the problem persists then speak to higher authorities.

M.O.R.: Why do seniors have to fill a second semester five course load?

N.W.: The reason is that the school board has a policy that to be a student here is to be a full-time student--but there are exceptions.

M.O.R.: What are your feelings toward the new proposal for full-year school?

N.W.: I haven't studied it lately--I always thought it was good to utilize facilities year-round. Dartmouth uses four quarters and students have to choose three of the four. It's a great idea.

M.O.R.: Thank you for your time.

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What limits do courts place on teen expression?

by Chrissy Jackson

"If we buy it, we should be able to wear it." This is the feeling of many students who feel that their freedom of expression has been restricted. Who decides what is okay to wear and what is inappropriate?

"There's no dress code. We should be able to wear what we want to," say many students. Actually, that's not true. Guidelines put out by the Oyster River School Board state that appearance is to be determined by the parents and the students, yet the attire must "[comply] with good health and does not interfere with the education process."

Who determines what interferes? The book "Law and Public Education" says that each district is allowed to decide what is appropriate, but that "School officials do not possess absolute authority over their students."

It's up to the Board to decide the dress code, but it's the building administrators who must interpret it, according to the Assistant Principal, Nancy Winterbottom. What of the fine line between what is acceptable and what is not? That is the gray area.

Back in 1969, toward the end of the Vietnam war, the Supreme Court that a fifteen year old could wear a black armband in school to protest the war. The Court said that the "...prohibition of the wearing of symbols like the armbands cannot be sustained unless it '...interfere[s] with the requirements of appropriate discipline in the operation of the school'." Specifically, the armbands were ruled constitutional, because the school could not show that any class was disrupted by the five students who wore armbands. Also, the school authorities didn't restrict all political symbols. Only the armband was singled out. This, according to the Court, was not "constitutionally permissible."

uld courts sustain a school rule which would ban this "Oktoberfest" shirt showing a beer mug?

"In most cases, if it's one individual, the teacher will talk to the student and ask him to change," said Winterbottom. If it's more than one teacher's personal taste, then the faculty sits down and talks about it, she continued.

"It's our right to free speech that's being questioned, our freedom of expression...we're still citizens, even in school," said a junior male.

Some people believe that free speech means you can say anything you want, any place, any time, but that's not true. For instance, it is illegal to yell 'fire' in a public building, when there is no fire. As to freedom of expression, students do not leave their constitutional rights at the entrance of the school. Yet the school itself has rights as an institution of learning. The problem is the collision of the two; where the students' rights start and the schools' rights begin. This brings back the gray area again.

Two recent disputes that OR has had are the Oyster River Co-ed Naked Volleyball shirts, and the OR

SPEECH CONT. ON PG. 8

Durham: a Diner's Extravaganza

TIM AND ERIC'S CUISINE SCENE

by Eric Ritvo & Tim Myers

It's Saturday night and you and your friends are cruising the main drag in Durham. Whether you're picking up dates, renting movies or just hanging out at the Store 24 parking lot, eventually you and your companions are going to get hungry. And if you're as cheap as myself, you're not going to want to spend a fortune on dinner. Well. Where do you eat? With Durham being the gigantic megalopolis that it is, the choice seems unlimited. But if you're going to catch the 7 o'clock Strand show and still be home for your 9 p.m. curfew, you're going to have to hurry.

Four restaurants thought to be quick and efficient are J.P.'s Eatery, Durham House of Pizza, the Sub Stop and Carl's. Which place is best for you? Hopefully we can help you decide.

The first place I went was J.P.'s. Walking in I am overcome by a blinding green haze. I turn away and see myself thousands of times over in the full length wall mirrors on each side of me. Wow! This place isn't just ugly. It's hideous! The entire restaurant is bright white with a horrid green trim. It's like a cross between modern neon and a 1940's ice cream parlor gone bad. Ignoring my loss of appetite, I stagger up to the counter and order a chicken finger dinner with coleslaw, medium fries and a regular shake. I pull out a 5 to pay and ... What?! $30,000! For that! Maybe I exaggerated, but $7.50, yes $7.50, for that meal seems a little steep. I pay my month's earnings (I didn't really want that new car anyway) and sit down. I realize I don't have enough left for the movies and will be reduced to watching Green Acres reruns on Nick-at-Night. Well I sit down and bite into one of my five chicken fingers. It's not exactly dry, but it's certainly

not overflowing with juice either. Not being a coleslaw man, I go on to my fries. As fries go, they aren't that bad, but nothing to write home about. I am starting to feel very disappointed about my tres-chic meal when I try my shake. BOOM! REVELATIONS! The shake is good! I gulp down the rest of my meal and concentrate my abilities on my shake. Despite the good shake, J.P.'s is a definite thumbs down for any student with a budget. Green Acres here I come!

The next night after unsuccessfully trying to pick up some U.N.H. coeds, I decide to stop at Durham House of Pizza for a bite to eat. I order a small sausage pizza for $4.50 and sit down. The restaurant is definitely standard pizza parlor fare: booths, a counter, jukebox, soda dispenser and a Joust II video machine. Nothing out of the ordinary. In less than 15 minutes my pizza is ready. It looks greasy, but other than that it looks very good. I take a bite. The cheese melts in my mouth and the sausage tingles my tongue. The sausage is real strips of Italian sausage, not the usual ground up garbage. It's delicious pizza. Had I wanted more, a large cheese pizza is $5.95, and the restaurant has a variety of pizza deals throughout the week. A real thumbs up and a sure success for stopping my appetite. My success for finding a date however....

The Sub Stop is located in downtown Durham. As the title suggests, the Sub Stop serves, catch this, sub sandwiches. I wander into the restaurant and am greeted by the cook. The menu is hanging above the grill with the food and the wallet fattenning prices listed. I choose a large onion steak to feast on. The menu board lists the other options: hot or cold subs.

The subs from this restaurant are always up to standards as one of the best in Durham. The hot subs, or grill items, are steak subs with either cheese, onions, green peppers, or any other free condiments. They offer you mustard, ketchup, peppers, lettuce, onions, and tomatoes free of charge on any sub. The "cold" sandwiches include tuna, turkey, bologna, salami, and pastrami. The prices are reasonable the service is quick, and the food is great. I take a seat in the red booths in the back of the restaurant. I pick up the sports page from another table and read while I eat. The sub is spectactular. It has some grease, but not any more than one would expect from making a steak-umm at home. The bread is in rolls with the steak inside. Basically it is pure chewing satisfaction. Hot or cold, the subs at the Sub Stop are some of the best in Durham. Whether you are in a rush, or are having a leisurely meal with a friend, the Sub Stop should always be considered as an option. A most bodacious place to feast, definitely thumbs up.

The final restaurant that we are going to review is Karl's. Karl's restaurant is located in a van which can be found in the parking lot across from Martin's parking lot, and by the back of the M.U.B. The hours are approximately 5 p.m. to 2 a.m., when U.N.H. is in session. I stroll up to Karl's at about 6 in the evening and have a short 15 minute wait. I order a grilled cheeseburger sub (Big-guy) and french fries with cheddar cheese (snotties). The snotties are the specialty. The food comes out perfect. The snotties are the best french fries in the northeast. Blanketed with Velveeta cheese it is the perfect blend. They come in large, medium (the best size), or small. The big-guy is delectable, containing the perfect blend of grease, meat, cheese, ketchup, mustard and onions. The food is the most inexpensive in Durham. Also, it is open later than other restaurants and thus is always a good choice for dinner. Karl runs the restaurant and can talk your ears off if you get him started. The other patrons are part of the delight at Karl's. They are usually intoxicated and thus able to give new insight to any pertinent issue at the time. If you are partying with your friends or just out late, Karl's is the place for inexpensive, delicious food. A huge thumbs up for this eating establishment.